



## Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea

*Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet*

### Steve Scherer to Demonstrate Lampworked Glass at Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea

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**BEREA, Ky.** – On Saturday, Aug. 9, glass artist Steve Scherer, of Edmonton, will demonstrate how he creates animals and ornaments from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea.

Steve Scherer has been working with glass since 1969. He was introduced to his craft by “Cap” and Dave Duewer, while a senior in high school in Decatur, Illinois. At school there was little time for glass lessons, so Steve began to experiment with glass on his own as a hobby. After completing a degree in microbiology at the University of Illinois, Steve decided he would prefer to earn his living working with glass.

Glassblowing with a torch is referred to as “lampwork” because in the past, it was done in an alcohol lamp with a mouth-powered blowpipe to direct the flame. Steve uses an oxygen-gas torch to work his borosilicate glass. His mentors, the Duewars, taught Steve how to color his own glass and instilled in him an ethic for doing quality work. Steve still uses his own hand-colored glass for most of his pieces.

Christmas ornaments with encased handmade figures are one of Steve’s more unique creations. To make them a sphere is first blown out of a piece of glass tubing, leaving a hollow tube attached to the bottom. The sphere is opened at the top, the finished figure inserted and attached by fusing it to the bottom, and the opening gathered together and sealed. A loop is then added to the top.

Works by Steve Scherer are regularly available at the center, located just off Interstate 75 at Berea, Exit 77. The center’s exhibits, shopping and travel information areas are open daily, year-round, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., with the cafe open from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Admission is free.

The center currently features works by more than 700 artisans from more than 100 counties across the Commonwealth. A gallery exhibit, “Repurposed & Recycled: Works by Kentucky Artisans,” is on display through Sept. 6; and in the lobby, “Kentucky Bourbon: Distillation and Inspiration,” is on display through Nov. 16. For information about the center’s events call 859-985-5448, visit us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/kentucky.artisan.center](http://www.facebook.com/kentucky.artisan.center), or go to the center’s website at [www.kentuckyartisancenter.ky.gov](http://www.kentuckyartisancenter.ky.gov).

The Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea is an agency in the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.



**Photos, left to right:** Steve Scherer creates a white horse from glass; a finished glass horse ornament by Steve Scherer; Steve Scherer demonstrates lampworked glass at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea